

## **Comments of Diane J. Fink, MD, Chief Mission Delivery Officer, American Cancer Society, California Division**

### ***Comment:***

On behalf of the American Cancer Society, California Division, we are writing in strong support of the California Air Resources Board's proposal to identify environmental tobacco smoke (ETS) as a toxic air contaminant.

The scientific evidence demonstrating the health hazards of ETS has been overwhelming for years. ETS has been classified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as a Group A carcinogen. Group A carcinogens include only the most dangerous substances such as asbestos and radon. ETS contains over 4,000 substances, more than 40 of which are known or suspected to cause cancer in humans and animals. Each year, about 3,000 nonsmoking adults die of lung cancer as a result of breathing ETS.

Enclosed for your reference is the American Cancer Society's Cancer Facts & Figures 2003. In addition, may we refer you to your colleagues in the California Department of Health Services, Prevention Section, Chronic Disease & Injury Control Branch, Tobacco Control Section. They possess a wealth of exposure and other ETS data more recent than the 1999 data cited in your report.

We believe that ETS, a proven air-borne carcinogen, should be classified as a toxic air contaminant. The evidence is unequivocal.

### ***Response:***

*Thank you very much for your additional information and your comments.*